



# Good Neighbor News

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## Crime Mapping

*A new way to learn about crime cases filed in the City of Carlsbad*

The City of Carlsbad Police Department presents [www.CrimeMapping.com](http://www.CrimeMapping.com), a law enforcement tool to provide the public with valuable information about recent crime activity in their neighborhood. The goal is to assist police departments in reducing crime through a better-informed public. Creating more self-reliance among community members is a great benefit to community oriented policing efforts everywhere and has been proven effective in combating crime.



CrimeMapping.com analyzes and maps crime data like arson, assault, burglary, drugs/alcohol violations, DUI, fraud, homicide, auto theft, robbery, vandalism, vehicle burglary and even multiple crimes at a single location. Colorful icons provide detailed information about these crimes. You can view maps in either a satellite photo view or on a road map. Crimes can be compiled in a report format or shown as a graph to identify patterns or trends. Finally, there is an option to sign up for email alerts.

To watch a step-by-step guide on how to use CrimeMapping.com, visit <http://bit.ly/oGdPYh>.

## Carlsbad Police Connects through Social Media



From Facebook and Twitter to YouTube, the City of Carlsbad Police Department is using online resources like social media to share news, crime and prevention information.



Twitter bird illustration by Ben Stone and Phil Pascucci

Currently you can access police department information like press releases, prevention information and other news on the City of Carlsbad's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/cityofcarlsbad](http://www.facebook.com/cityofcarlsbad), the Twitter page at <http://twitter.com/#!/carlsbadcagov> and the YouTube page at <http://www.youtube.com/user/cityofcarlsbadCA>.



"Like" us on Facebook and "follow" us on Twitter to receive continuing information. All of these links can

be found on the City of Carlsbad's home page at [www.carlsbadca.gov](http://www.carlsbadca.gov).

Currently, the police department has five prevention videos on YouTube. They are:

1. Vehicle crime prevention  
<http://youtu.be/azHzyGjwPZE>
2. Halloween safety  
<http://youtu.be/koVKsEbYlnA>
3. Home security – a three part series
  - a. The exterior of your home  
<http://youtu.be/azHzyGjwPZE>
  - b. The perimeter of your home  
<http://youtu.be/vCqYlOtYVvA>
  - c. The interior of your home  
<http://youtu.be/rREtmxXOYWc>

"Like" them and "share" them on your community pages and sites, or consider streaming them before community meetings, at neighborhood parties or anywhere they could be of service.

## Spring Ahead - Fall Back

No matter how you remember it, it is that time of year again. On November 6<sup>th</sup> we turn our clocks back one hour. This means it will get dark an hour earlier. It is time to reset our timers, inside and out, and change our smoke detector batteries. Don't allow your house to sit dark, sending the message that you are not at home. For more home security tips go to [www.carlsbadca.gov/crime-prevention](http://www.carlsbadca.gov/crime-prevention).

## Holiday Travel Safety for Families

... to Grandmother's house we go but let's make sure we go safely.



### Family Travel Security Plan

The secret to keeping your family safe while traveling is to have a plan. Give careful thought to where you will be going and what you will be doing, creating a plan for safety.

Hold a family meeting and discuss the plan playing the "what if" game. For example, *what if* you get separated? *What if* you want to go to the swimming pool, beach or gym? What precautions can we take to be a safe? *What if* someone approaches us while walking to our car on the street at night? What should we do and how should we react? Where would we go and whom would we notify in case of emergency? Planning is everything.

### Vacation Destinations

Check-out your destination in advance. Learn about the crime rate, police response and community services. Leave behind contact information and your itinerary. Consider how you would get cash, food, taxis, or other help. Create and print maps from your hotel/motel to necessary destinations. Print a list of local phone numbers.



### Packing

Expensive jewelry can draw attention. Take only the credit cards and personal information you need. Pack clothes that allow you to move easily in unknown locations. Don't overload yourself with luggage and become distracted.

### On the Road

Map your trip in advance. Note safe areas to stop. Ensure your vehicle is travel ready and in good condition. Carry your cell phone and charger. Use proper safety seats for all children and secure pets. Carry easy-to-eat food and water. Think about what is left unattended in your vehicle at stops. Park where you can see your car and always take purses, wallets and electronics with you. Consider what to do in case of emergency.

### Hotels and Motels

Give some thought to what hotel or motel you select and what room you will accept. The cost of the hotel room is not always a predictor of how safe the room or property will be. There are a few rules to apply to any hotel room you rent.

### Room Location

Request a room on an upper floor. In a high rise building, rooms above the fifth floor are usually safer than those below, because of accessibility and ease of escape. High-rise buildings usually have fewer ground level doors and are easier for the hotel staff to monitor who passes through the lobby after hours.

### Room Security Features

Hotel or motel rooms should be equipped with a solid wood or a metal door. Room doors should have a deadbolt lock with a one inch throw bolt. If the lock looks worn or there are pry marks, get another room or move to another hotel. The knob lock should be "hotel-style" where you can push a button on the inside knob and block out all keys.

Hotels with electronic card-access have the advantage of being able to disable former key-cards issued to other guests. The room door should have a wide-angle peephole so you can view who is at the door before opening. Do not rely on door chains or swing bars to secure the doors

when you peek out to speak someone. Teach your children not to open the door to any hotel room without knowing the person on the other side.

Make sure all windows and sliding doors are secured if they are accessible from the ground. It is a good idea to pull on all windows and glass doors to test if they are secure. Beware of balconies where someone can climb from one to another and enter through an open window or sliding door. If the windows or sliding doors are not securable, ask for another room or find another hotel.

Keep cash, credit cards, passports, jewelry, electronics and other valuables in the hotel/motel safe.

### Supervise Children

Children should not be allowed to wander unsupervised. Everyone while traveling is a stranger. Do not leave a child at the pool or gym unsupervised. In case a child gets separated, have an agreed upon location to meet. Have your child carry a card with your contact information and keep a photo of your child handy. Go to [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov) and download the FBI's child safety application to your iPhone.



Have a safe and happy holiday season!